

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES DIVISION**

MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD

A meeting was held on November 17, 2015, commencing at 11:18 a.m., at the Boone County Fairgrounds Community Building, 1601 Industrial Park Road, Boone, IA 50036. Board Members attending were Chair Geri Huser, Libby Jacobs, and Nick Wagner.

Under the consent items, Board Member Wagner made a motion to approve the October 20, 2015, meeting minutes of the Board. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Board Member Wagner motioned, the Board unanimously approved all administrative items.

David Lynch, General Counsel, summarized a memo provided to the Board regarding the 476C tax credit applications. In review of the applications, 46.95 MW of electricity became available to the remaining wind applicants on the waiting list. Staff will evaluate the remaining applications once responses to the second round of questions in NOI-2015-0001 are received, which are due on November 23, 2015.

Board staff Leighann LaRocca summarized the monthly financial reports. She confirmed the agency is within budget.

Board staff Cynthia Munyon updated the Board on the signed 2015 Base Grant Payment Agreement. The pipeline safety 2015 Base Grant Payment Agreement Title VI /Non-Discrimination Assurances is a required document for all States receiving any Federal financial assistance for the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) through the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. The Iowa Utilities Board participates in the federal State pipeline safety program acting as an interstate agent on behalf of the DOT to ensure compliance with the Federal safety standards.

Under actions items, Board staff Munyon asked that the Board approve and sign the Interstate Agency Agreement with PHMSA. This agreement allows the agency to inspect interstate natural gas pipelines under federal authority. Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve, and the Interstate Agency Agreement was unanimously approved for signature.

Board staff Munyon summarized a proposed agency response letter to PHMSA regarding their annual evaluation of the Iowa Pipeline Safety Program. Board Member Jacobs made a motion to approve, and the response to the PHMSA Evaluation was unanimously approved and authorized for the Board Chair's signature.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Recorded by Marie Jeanblanc

Approved at the December 15, 2015 Board meeting.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser
Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano
Executive Secretary, Designee